(i) Making Qualitative Requirements more broad based so as to avoid single vendor situations.

(ii) Direct offsets and Integrity Pact as part of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for purchases over Rs. 300 crore.

(iii) Standard contract terms upfront as part of the RFP. This includes provision regarding penalty for use of undue influence by the seller and prohibit engagement of any agent or payment of agency commissions by the seller.

(iv) Broad timeframe for completion of different procurement activities.

Recruitment at Officer Level

† 2316. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ. Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that problem is being faced with respect to new recruitment at officer level;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government are considering to formulate a new scheme to attract competent youths into army?

THE MINITSER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) (a) to (c) There has been no problem in filling up the required vacancies for new induction at the officers' level However, in view of the increasing competition from the corporate world, steps like Image Projection Campaign, enhanced interaction with the youth which Government wishes to attract to the Armed Forces, implementation of the Ajai Vikram Singh Committee recommendations and raising of additional Service Selection Boards, have been initiated.

Expiry of lease of Annadel ground, Shimla

† 2317. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Annadel ground in Shimla was leased out to army for a period of 99 years and the period of this lease has expired;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.